

## **REMARKS**

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated April 14, 2009. Claims 2, 7, 21, 22, 25, 34, 35, 39, 40, 42, 44 to 47, 50, 52, 53, 61, 65, 69, 72, 77 to 84, 88 to 91, and 93 to 95 have been amended. No new matter has been added by such amendments. Claims 1, 2, 50 and 79 to 95 are in independent form. Claims 3 to 5, 8, 12, 13, 17, 24, 31, 32, 41, 51, 55 to 59, 67, 70 and 73 stand canceled. Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for all payments due in connection with this Response.

During a telephone conversation on June 3, 2009, the Examiner confirmed that the substitute specification, which Applicant filed on June 16, 2006 to make certain amendments to Applicant's specification, has been entered into the record.

### **Allowed Claims**

The Office Action allowed claims 1, 14 to 16, 25, 26, 33 to 40, 42 to 49, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87 and 92.

### **Claim Objections**

The Office Action objected to independent claim 82 due to informalities. Specifically, the Office Action requested clarification of "the two 'fixing parts' disclosed." Accordingly, Applicant has amended independent claim 82 for clarification. Applicant respectfully submits that such objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

### **Rejected Claims**

The Office Action rejected:

- (1) Claims 79 and 84 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,456,444 to Yumiki et al. ("Yumiki");
- (2) Claim 81 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,140,468 to Kayanuma;
- (3) Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yumiki in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,596,449 to Iwata et al. ("Iwata"), and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,813,092 to Yoshida et al. ("Yoshida");

- (4) Claims 50, 89 and 90 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,356,307 to Ohkawara et al. ("Ohkawara");
- (5) Claim 80 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yumiki in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,175,291 to Kleinert et al. ("Kleinert");
- (6) Claim 88 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohkawara in view of Iwata, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,826,769 to Hirokane et al. ("Hirokane");
- (7) Claim 91 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohkawara in view of Iwata;
- (8) Claim 93 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yumiki in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,359,276 to Tomori;
- (9) Claim 94 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yumiki in view of Iwata and further in view of Tomori; and
- (10) Claim 95 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yumiki in view of U.S. Pat. No. 3,956,761 to Koch et al. ("Koch").

Although Applicant disagrees with such rejections, and has certain arguments to traverse such rejections, Applicant has amended the rejected claims in accordance with the allowed claims for purposes of advancing the prosecution of the application. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the patentability of the subject matter of the rejected claims through filing one or more continuation applications.

Applicant has amended independent claims 2, 50, 89 and 90 in accordance with the allowed subject matter of independent claim 1.

Applicant has amended independent claims 79, 94 and 95 in accordance with the allowed subject matter of independent claim 82.

Applicant has amended independent claims 80, 81 and 93 in accordance with the allowed subject matter of independent claim 92.

Applicant has amended independent claim 84 in accordance with the allowed subject matter of independent claim 83.

Applicant has amended independent claims 88 and 91 in accordance with the allowed subject matter of independent claim 86.

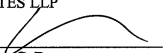
Accordingly, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Specifically, independent Claims 1, 2, 50 and 79 to 95 and dependent Claims 6, 7, 9 to 11, 14 to 16, 18 to 23, 25 to 30, 33 to 40, 42 to 49, 52 to 54, 60 to 66, 68, 69, 71, 72 and 74 to 78 are in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: July 13, 2009